



the fanellis

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541 Schultz Road
Elms, New York 14059
September 20, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (WA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: Docket Numbers 98N-1230
96P-0418
97P-0197

Dear Madam or Sir:

I would like to express my deep **concern** with the **safety of the nation's** egg supply **due to** the dangerous and inhumane practice of forced molting. The **USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service** recognizes that **hens subjected to forced molting shed increased amounts of salmonella bacteria**, thus contaminating their eggs.

The **FDA mandate extends further than merely putting warning labels on egg cartons and regulating egg-refrigeration temperatures**. I am 46 years **old, and** well remember a time (not too **long ago!**) when **salmonella contamination of eggs** was **not the widespread problem it is today**. Something dearly has **changed**, and that something is the increased practice of forced **molting--increasing the egg supply (unnecessarily) at the expense** of its safety.

What the FDA must do is **ban** the practice of forced molting because it presents an **incontrovertible danger to the public health**. **Disease in hens is promoted because the starvation and water deprivation destroy their immune systems**.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to **ban forced molting**. Such a **ban is long overdue!**

Very truly yours,

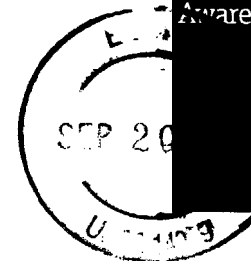
(Mrs.) Anne Fanelli

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Prostate
Cancer
Awareness



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20852/0001



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C701

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C702
96P-0418/C701